

Yorkshire and the Humber launched a Practitioner Development Programme in 2019. Practitioner Development programmes/schemes have been already successfully launched in 10 areas of the Country and have been well received.

What is the Yorkshire and Humber Practitioner Development Programme?

The Yorkshire and Humber Practitioner Development Programme is an open access CPD programme that has strong links to the UKPHR Practitioner standards for registration. In addition to the CPD programme, a limited number of places are available to undertake a programme of structured support designed to enable registration with the UK Public Health Register (UKPHR). The registration support aspect are linked to the UKPHR assessment and verification frameworks.

The UKPHR is the regulator for public health professionals in the United Kingdom, providing professional regulation to public health specialists and public health practitioners from a variety of backgrounds, all of whom have a common core of knowledge, and skills.

Benefits of Practitioner Registration

Professional registration with the UKPHR brings a wealth of benefits to the individual, organisation and the communities they serve. Benefits include:

- A significant opportunity to become part of a quality assured public health workforce providing clear professional identification.
- The attainment of core standards required to demonstrate safe and competent practice.
- The ability to show current and prospective employers some assurances of quality of work.
- Recognises achievement, success and ongoing development.
- Helps to identify and fill 'gaps' within knowledge and competencies.
- Encourages reflective practice and demonstrates commitment.
- Promotes the valuing and recognition of a 'hidden' workforce who contribute significantly to the public health agenda.

Once registered, practitioners may now also register with the Faculty of Public Health. Membership of these organisations provides individuals with the chance:

- to expand beneficial career networks and influence the decision making which will affect their present and future professional lives
- to contribute towards the setting and maintenance of the standards in their profession.

Who are Public Health Practitioners?

Public Health Practitioners are key members of the Public Health workforce and can have a great influence on the health and wellbeing of individuals, groups, communities and populations. They work across the full breadth of Public Health from health improvement and health protection, to health information, community development and nutrition, in a wide range of settings from the NHS and local government to the voluntary and private sectors. Practitioners must be working at level 5 (the level of autonomous practice) or above on the Public Health Skills and Knowledge Framework ([PHSKF](#)) - but below specialist/consultant level, for a minimum of two years to be considered.

More Information:

The Yorkshire and Humber programme was launched in Spring 2019 and recruits practitioners from around the region for a programme of structure support for registration. The programme also offers an open access CPD programme which is available to all Practitioners within the region. It is anticipated that it will take practitioners no more than 18 months to obtain full registration therefore we are likely to select people with minimal gaps based upon their application. The programme will be open for application and selection via a self-assessment and application form and successful practitioners will develop an evidence based portfolio to demonstrate competence across 4 areas of practice:

1. **Professional and ethical practice** – Practising professionally, ethically and legally.
2. **Technical** – Using Public Health information to measure, monitor and manage population health and wellbeing.
3. **Context** – Implementing public health policy and strategy and collaborating across agencies and boundaries to deliver the public health function.
4. **Delivery** – Designing, managing and evaluating public health programmes and projects and communicating with others to improve health outcomes and reduce health inequalities.

The new UKPHR Practitioner standards and guidance document can be found [here](#).

Findings from independent evaluation suggest that the processes involved in practitioner registration are valued by practitioners, assessors, verifiers and importantly, managers and employers.

If you wish to register an interest in the scheme (whether it be as a practitioner, an assessor or simply for more information), please contact us via the dedicated [PH Practitioner Development Programme pages](#) of the regional YHPHN website or contact the Public Health Practitioner Programme Coordinator, Y&H at PHPPYH@leeds.ac.uk or phone on 0113 343 5683.

Useful websites and further information:

UKPHR:

<http://www.ukphr.org/i-want-to-apply-for-registration/practitioner/>

(Public Health Practitioners in the UK)

http://www.ukphr.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/UKP_UKPHR-leaflet-printer-version-print-as-tablet.pdf

Health Careers:

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/public-health/public-health-practitioner>